

Technical note: definitions and sources

INDICATOR	DEFINITION	TYPE	SOURCE
Overview			
Burden classification	<p>Countries with overlapping forms of childhood stunting, anaemia and overweight in adult women.</p> <p>Thresholds for a country having the form or not: stunting in children aged under 5 years $\geq 20\%$; anaemia in women of reproductive age (15–49) $\geq 20\%$; overweight (body mass index (BMI) ≥ 25) in adult women aged ≥ 18 years $\geq 35\%$.</p>		<p>Stunting: United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)/International Comparison Program (WHO)/World Bank Group: Joint child malnutrition estimates 2018. Available at: https://data.unicef.org/resources/levels-and-trends-in-child-malnutrition-2018/</p> <p>Overweight: NCD Risk Factor Collaboration. Available at: http://ncdrisc.org</p> <p>Anaemia: WHO Global Health Observatory. Available at: https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.ANM.ALLW.ZS</p>
Progress against global nutrition targets	<p>The Global Nutrition Report assesses country progress against nine of the global nutrition targets using projected data and average annual rates of reduction.</p> <p>Data is unavailable for many countries across the targets, ranging from 4 countries with insufficient data on diabetes, to 133 on child overweight.</p>	Data types, methods and sources for assessing progress differ between the targets.	See Appendix 1 of the 2018 <i>Global Nutrition Report</i> for details of the sources used.

	<p>Where adequate data exists, progress is expressed as 'on course', 'some progress', or 'no progress or worsening'.</p> <p>Regional progress is expressed as the total number of constituent countries that are 'on course'.</p>		
Economics and demography			
Poverty rates \$1.90 a day (%)	<p>Percentage of the population living on less than \$1.90 a day at 2011 international prices.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Household surveys	World Bank PovcalNet 2018. Available at: https://data.worldbank.org/
Poverty rates \$3.20 a day (%)	<p>Percentage of the population living on less than \$3.20 a day at 2011 international prices.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Household surveys	World Bank PovcalNet 2018. Available at: https://data.worldbank.org/
GDP per capita, PPP (constant 2011 international \$)	GDP per capita based on purchasing power parity (PPP).	World Bank, national accounts data, OECD national accounts data files	World Bank, Development Data Group. International Comparison Program database. World Databank 2018. Available at: https://data.worldbank.org/

	Data is in constant 2011 international dollars. Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.	and International Comparison Program database	
Under-five mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Probability of dying between birth and 5 years of age, expressed per 1,000 live births.	Modelled estimates	The UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation, UNICEF, WHO, UN Population Division, World Bank) 2018. Available at: http://data.unicef.org/child-mortality/under-five
Income inequality (Gini Index)	Gini index measures the extent to which the distribution of income (or, in some cases, consumption expenditure) among individuals or households in an economy deviates from a perfectly equal distribution. A Gini index of 0 represents perfect equality, while an index of 100 implies perfect inequality.	Index, based on primary household survey data obtained from government statistical agencies and World Bank country departments	World Bank, Development Research Group 2018. Available at: http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/world-development-indicators
Total population (thousands or millions)	Total population.	Modelled estimates	UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), Population Division. World Population Prospects: The 2017 revision, 2017. Available at: https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/Download/Standard/Population/
Total under-five population (thousands or millions)	Total population of children aged 0-59 months.	Modelled estimates	UNDESA, Population Division. World Population Prospects: The 2017 revision, 2017. Available at: https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/Download/Standard/Population/

Population rural (%)	Percentage of population living in rural areas. Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.	Modelled estimates	UNDESA, Population Division. World Population Prospects: The 2017 revision, 2017. Available at: https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/Download/Standard/Population/
Population >65 years (thousands or millions)	Total population 65 years of age or older.	Modelled estimates	UNDESA, Population Division. World Population Prospects: The 2017 revision, 2017. Available at: https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/Download/Standard/Population/
Underlying determinants			
Undernourishment (%)	The percentage of the population whose food intake is insufficient to meet dietary energy requirements continuously. Calculated from 3-year averages for countries, and annual for regions. The associated year is the middle year of those three.	Food security indicator	Food And Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) Statistics Division, 2018. Food Security/Suite of Food Security Indicators. Available at: http://faostat3.fao.org/faostat-gateway/go/to/download/D/FS/E
Availability of fruit and vegetables (grams per capita)	The total amount of fruit and vegetables available for human consumption during the reference period, expressed as grams per capita per day.	Food balance sheets	FAO Statistics Division, 2018. Food Balance/Food Supply – Crops Primary Equivalent. Available at: http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/CC
Available kcal from non-staples (%)	Share of dietary energy supply derived from all food sources except cereals, roots and tubers, calculated as a 3-year average for countries and	Food security indicator	FAO Statistics Division, 2018. Food Security/Suite of Food Security Indicators. Available at: http://faostat3.fao.org/faostat-gateway/go/to/download/D/FS/E

	regions. The associated year is the middle year of those three.		
Early childbearing – births by age 18 (%)	Percentage of women age 20–24 who gave birth before age 18. Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.	Based on Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and other nationally representative surveys.	UNICEF Global databases 2018. Available at: http://data.unicef.org/maternal-health/delivery-care
Gender Inequality Index (score)	An inequality index measuring gender inequalities in three important aspects of human development – reproductive health, measured by maternal mortality ratio and adolescent birth rates; empowerment, measured by proportion of parliamentary seats occupied by women and proportion of women and men aged 25 years and older with at least some secondary education; and economic status, expressed as labour market participation and measured by labour force participation rate of female and male populations aged 15 years and older.	Composite index	UN Development Programme (UNDP). Human Development Reports, 2018. Available at: http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/gender-inequality-index-gii
Population density of health workers (per 1,000 population).	Population density of health workers (per 1,000 population).	Population surveys and modelled estimates	WHO's Global Health Workforce Statistics, OECD, supplemented by country data. Available at: http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A1444?lang=en

	<p>Physicians include generalist and specialist medical practitioners.</p> <p>Nurses and midwives include professional nurses, professional midwives, auxiliary nurses, auxiliary midwives, enrolled nurses, enrolled midwives and other associated personnel such as dental nurses and primary care nurses.</p> <p>Community health workers include various types of community health aides, many with country-specific occupational titles such as community health officers, community health-education workers, family health workers, lady health visitors and health extension package workers.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>		
Female secondary enrolment rates (net, %)	The ratio of female children of official school age who are enrolled in school to the population of the corresponding official school age	Population surveys	UNESCO Institute for Statistics 2018. Available at: https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SE.SEC.NENR.FE

	Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.		
Drinking water coverage (%)	<p>Percentage of the population using improved drinking-water sources. Includes the following categories.</p> <p>Safely managed: drinking water from an improved water source that is located on premises, available when needed and free from faecal and priority chemical contamination</p> <p>Basic: drinking water from an improved source, provided collection time is not more than 30 minutes for a round trip, including queuing</p> <p>Limited: drinking water from an improved source for which collection time exceeds 30 minutes for a roundtrip including queuing</p> <p>Unimproved: drinking water from an unprotected dug well or unprotected spring</p>	Modelled estimates	WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation, 2017. Available at: https://washdata.org/data

	<p>Surface water: drinking water directly from a river, dam, lake, pond, stream, canal or irrigation canal</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population-weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>		
Sanitation coverage (%)	<p>Percentage of the population using improved sanitation facilities. Includes the following categories.</p> <p>Safely managed: use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households and where excreta are safely disposed in situ or transported and treated off-site</p> <p>Basic: use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households</p> <p>Limited: use of improved facilities shared between two or more households</p> <p>Unimproved: use of pit latrines without a slab or platform, hanging latrines or bucket latrines</p>	Modelled estimates	WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation, 2017. Available at: https://washdata.org/data

	<p>Open defecation: disposal of human faeces in fields, forests, bushes, open bodies of water, beaches and other open spaces or with solid waste</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population-weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>		
Government spending on health, education, social protection and agriculture (%)	<p>Percentage of health, education, social protection and agriculture spending among total government expenditure.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population-weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Data from the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and national governments	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Statistics of Public Expenditure for Economic Development 2015. Available at: http://www.ifpri.org/book-39/ourwork/programs/priorities-public-investment/speed-database
Child nutrition status			
Under-five stunting (%)	<p>Percentage of children 0–59 months who are more than two standard deviations below median height for age of the WHO Child Growth Standards.</p> <p>Regional data, where disaggregated, is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Population surveys	<p>UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group: Joint child malnutrition estimates 2018. Available at: https://data.unicef.org/resources/levels-and-trends-in-child-malnutrition-2018/</p> <p>Disaggregated data: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates Expanded Databases 2018. Available at: https://data.unicef.org/resources/dataset/malnutrition-data/</p>

Under-five wasting (%)	<p>Percentage of children 0–59 months who are more than two (moderate and severe) standard deviations below median weight for height of the WHO Child Growth Standards.</p> <p>Regional data, where disaggregated, is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Population surveys	<p>UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group: Joint child malnutrition estimates 2018. Available at: https://data.unicef.org/resources/levels-and-trends-in-child-malnutrition-2018/</p> <p>Disaggregated data: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates Expanded Databases 2018. Available at: https://data.unicef.org/resources/dataset/malnutrition-data/</p>
Under-five overweight (%)	<p>Percentage of children under 5 years who are more than two standard deviations above the median weight-for-height of the WHO Child Growth Standards.</p> <p>Regional data, where disaggregated, is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Population surveys	<p>UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group: Joint child malnutrition estimates 2018. Available at: https://data.unicef.org/resources/levels-and-trends-in-child-malnutrition-2018/</p> <p>Disaggregated data: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates Expanded Databases 2018. Available at: https://data.unicef.org/resources/dataset/malnutrition-data/</p>
Coexistence of wasting, stunting and overweight	Coexistence of wasting, stunting and overweight among children under 5 years of age.	Population surveys	UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy, 2018. Global UNICEF Global Databases: Overlapping Stunting, Wasting and Overweight, May 2018, New York. Available at: https://data.unicef.org/topic/nutrition/malnutrition
Child-feeding practices			
Early initiation of breastfeeding (within 1 hour of birth) (%)	Proportion of children born in the last 24 months who were put to the breast within one hour of birth.	MICS, DHS and other nationally representative surveys	UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy, 2018. Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding, New York, May 2018. Available at: http://data.unicef.org/nutrition/iycf

	Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.		
Exclusive breastfeeding <6 months (%)	Proportion of infants 0–5 months who were exclusively breastfed. Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.	MICS, DHS and other nationally representative surveys	UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy, 2018. Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding, New York, May 2018. Available at: http://data.unicef.org/nutrition/iycf
Minimum dietary diversity (%)	Minimum dietary diversity: Proportion of children 6–23 months who receive foods from four or more food groups. Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.	MICS, DHS and other nationally representative surveys	UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy, 2018. Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding, New York, May 2018. Available at: http://data.unicef.org/nutrition/iycf
Minimum acceptable diet (%)	The composite indicator is calculated from: the proportion of breastfed children aged 6–23 months who had at least the minimum dietary diversity and the minimum meal frequency during the previous day, and the proportion of non-breastfed children aged 6–23 months who received at least two milk feedings and had at	MICS, DHS and other nationally representative surveys	UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy, 2018. Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding, New York, May 2018. Available at: http://data.unicef.org/nutrition/iycf

	<p>least the minimum dietary diversity not including milk feeds and the minimum meal frequency during the previous day.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>		
Continued breastfeeding (at 1 year) (%)	<p>Proportion of children 12–15 months who are fed breast milk.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	MICS, DHS and other nationally representative surveys	UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy, 2018. Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding, New York, May 2018. Available at: http://data.unicef.org/nutrition/iycf
Continued breastfeeding (at 2 years) (%)	<p>Percentage of children 20–23 months who are fed breast milk.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	MICS, DHS and other nationally representative surveys	UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy (2018), Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding, New York, May 2018. Available at: http://data.unicef.org/nutrition/iycf
Early initiation of breastfeeding (within 1 hour after birth) (%)	<p>Proportion of children born in the last 24 months who were put to the breast within 1 hour of birth.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all</p>	MICS, DHS and other nationally representative surveys	UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy, 2018. Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding, New York, May 2018. Available at: http://data.unicef.org/nutrition/iycf

	constituent countries with available data.		
Child and adolescent nutrition status			
Child and adolescent underweight (%)	<p>Percentage of children and adolescents aged 5–19 years who are more than one standard deviation below the median BMI for age of the WHO growth reference for school-aged children and adolescents.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Modelled estimates	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration 2018. Available at: http://ncdrisc.org/data-downloads.html
Child and adolescent overweight (%)	<p>Percentage of children and adolescents aged 5–19 years who are above one standard deviation from the median BMI for age of the WHO growth reference for school-aged children and adolescents.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Modelled estimates	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration. Available at: http://ncdrisc.org/data-downloads.html
Child and adolescent obesity (%)	<p>Percentage of children and adolescents aged 5–19 years who are above two standard deviations from</p>	Modelled estimates	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration. Available at: http://ncdrisc.org/data-downloads.html

	<p>the median BMI for age of the WHO growth reference for school-aged children and adolescents.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>		
Adult nutrition status			
Diabetes (%)	<p>Percentage of adults aged 18 and older with diabetes.</p> <p>Diabetes is defined as fasting glucose 7.0 mmol/L, on medication for raised blood glucose or with a history of diagnosis of diabetes.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Modelled estimates	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration. Available at: http://ncdrisc.org/data-downloads.html
Adult overweight (%)	<p>Percentage of adults aged 18 and older with a BMI of 25 kg/m² or higher.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Modelled estimates	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration. Available at: http://ncdrisc.org/data-downloads.html

Adult obesity (%)	<p>Percentage of adults aged 18 and older with a BMI of 30 kg/m² or higher.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Modelled estimates	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration. Available at: http://ncdrisc.org/data-downloads.html
Adult raised blood pressure (%)	<p>Percentage of adults aged 18 and older with raised blood pressure.</p> <p>Raised blood pressure is defined as blood pressure, systolic and/or diastolic blood pressure $\geq 140/90$ mmHg.</p> <p>Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.</p>	Modelled estimates	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration. Available at: http://ncdrisc.org/data-downloads.html
Anaemia among women of reproductive age (%)	<p>Prevalence of anaemia among women of reproductive age (15–49 years), both pregnant and non-pregnant, with haemoglobin levels below 12 g/dL for non-pregnant women and below 11 g/dL for pregnant women.</p>	Modelled estimates	WHO, Global Health Observatory Data Repository/World Health Statistics. Available at: https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.ANM.ALLW.ZS

	Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.		
Sodium intake (grams per day)	The mean intake of sodium expressed in grams per day. Regional data is based on the population weighted means of all constituent countries with available data.		Global Burden of Disease, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation 2018.
Dietary needs			
Consumption of food groups and components	Intake of various foods and nutrients by adults aged 25 and older, compared against their 'theoretical minimum-risk exposure level' (TMREL). TMREL is the exposure level (i.e. intake level of a food or nutrient) that minimises the risk of death from all causes related to a single risk factor.	For further details see pages 84–86 of the <i>2018 Global Nutrition Report</i> .	Global Burden of Disease, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation 2018.
Financial resources and policy, legislation, and institutional arrangements			
Official development assistance (ODA) received/disbursed	Disbursements of ODA from/to countries, reported to the OECD DAC under the basic nutrition purpose code (number 12240).	Amounts based on gross ODA disbursements, constant 2016 prices. Includes ODA grants and	Development Initiatives based on OECD DAC CRS.

(US\$ millions/% of total)	Regional data is the sum of disbursements received by constituent countries.	loans, but excludes other official flows and private grants reported to the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Creditor Reporting System (CRS)	
Mandatory legislation for salt iodisation (yes or no)	Countries with legal documentation that has the effect of mandating the iodisation of salt. Regional data is expressed as the total number of constituent countries that have mandatory legislation.		Global Fortification Data Exchange 2018. Available at: https://fortificationdata.org/legislation-status
Sugar-sweetened beverage tax (yes or no)	Jurisdictions with implemented sugar-sweetened beverage taxes. Regional data is expressed as the total number of constituent countries with implemented sugar-sweetened beverage taxes		Collated by WHO from: WHO Country Capacity Survey 2017; WHO Global Nutrition Policy Review 2016–2017; WHO Global database on the Implementation of Nutrition Action (GINA) and; World Cancer Research Fund International NOURISHING database.
Food-based dietary guidelines (yes or no)	Countries with national food-based dietary guidelines. Typically, food-based dietary guidelines propose a set of recommendations in terms of foods, food groups and dietary patterns to provide the required nutrients to		FAO 2018. Available at: http://www.fao.org/nutrition/education/food-based-dietary-guidelines/en/

	<p>promote overall health and prevent chronic diseases.</p> <p>Regional data is expressed as the total number of constituent countries with guidelines.</p>		
Multisectoral comprehensive nutrition plan (yes or no)	<p>Countries with or without a comprehensive nutrition plan that involves at least two sectors.</p> <p>Regional data is expressed as the total number of constituent countries with a comprehensive nutrition plan that involves at least two sectors.</p>		WHO GINA, 2nd Global Nutrition Policy Review.
Targets included in national policies (number)	<p>The number and type of global nutrition and diet-related NCD targets included in each country's national policies.</p> <p>National policies do not have to be exclusively nutrition and can include broader health policies..</p> <p>Regional data is expressed as the total number of constituent countries with each target in their national policies.</p>		WHO GINA, 2nd Global Nutrition Policy Review.
Intervention coverage			

Children 0–59 months with diarrhoea who received zinc treatment (%)	Percentage of children under 5 who had diarrhoea in the 2 weeks and received zinc supplements.	Data is compiled using STATcompiler and taken from country DHS for 2005–2017	Kothari M. and Huestis A., based on <i>2016 Global Nutrition Report</i> and UNICEF global databases, 2018.
Children 6–59 months who received two doses of vitamin A supplements (%)	Percentage of children 6–59 months who received vitamin A supplements in last 6 months.	Data is compiled using STATcompiler and taken from country DHS for 2005–2017	Kothari M. and Huestis A., based on <i>2016 Global Nutrition Report</i> and UNICEF global databases, 2018.
Children 6–59 months given iron supplements in past 7 days (%)	Percentage of children age 6-59 months who were given iron supplements in the seven days preceding the survey.	Data is compiled using STATcompiler and taken from country DHS for 2005–2017	Kothari M. and Huestis A., based on <i>2016 Global Nutrition Report</i> and UNICEF global databases, 2018.
Women with a birth in last 5 years who received iron and folic acid during their most recent pregnancy (%)	Percentage of women with a birth in the last five years who received iron and folic acid during their most recent pregnancy.	Data is compiled using STATcompiler and taken from country DHS for 2005–2017	Kothari M. and Huestis A., based on <i>2016 Global Nutrition Report</i> and UNICEF global databases, 2018.
Household consumption of any iodised salt (%)	Percentage of households with any iodised salt.	Data is compiled using STATcompiler and taken from country DHS for 2005–2017	Kothari M. and Huestis A., based on <i>2016 Global Nutrition Report</i> and UNICEF global databases, 2018.